Pending projects of North Eastern Region

†*233. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of those rail projects of North East States which were approved during the Tenth Five Year Plan but not completed till date;

(b) the projects out of these on which sanctioned amount has been spent; and

(c) whether the Government has included these sanctioned and pending projects particularly of Sikkim State in the Eleventh Plan; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) to (c) The details of ongoing rail projects in the North Eastern States which have been carried forward from Tenth Five Year Plan to Eleventh Five Year Plan is given in the table below. However, there is no sanctioned project in Sikkim State. However, the proposal of new line from Sivok to Rangpo has been processed and sent to Planning Commission for 'In Principle' approval.

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Year of inclusion in budget	Km	Latest anticipated cost	Exp. upto March 07	Outlay 07-08	Target date	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
New Line								
1	Jiribam-Imphal	2003-04	97.9	727	5.63	15	Jiribam-Imphal Road (Tupul) by March, 2012	Final location survey cmpleted for 52 km length. Work taken up in first 10 km from Jiribam end. This has been declared as a National Project.
2.	Kumarghat-Agartala	1996-97	109	880	637.26	45	March, 2008	Work is nearing completion and expected to be completed by June, 08. This has been declared as a National Project.
3.	Azra-Bymihat	2006-07	30	200	0	1	2014-15	Final location survey has been taken up. This has been declared as a National Project.
4.	Dimapur-Zubza *(Kohima)*	2006-07	88	850	0	1	2014-15	Final location survey is being *taken up. This has* been declared as a National Project.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	**Bogibeel bridge**	1997-98	73	1767	700.89	249.45	March, 2012	The work of approaches on North and South bank have been taken up. The boulder collection for guide bunds and protection works in progress. The main bridge substructure tender is under process.
6.	**Dudhnoi-Depa**	1992-93	16	22.33	0.5	0.02	Not fixed	The Survey for alternative alignment from Dudhnoi to Mendhipathar as suggested by State Government has been completed.
7.	**Harmuti-Itanagar**	1996-97	33	156	0	5	March, 2011	Final location survey has been completed from Harmuti to Naharlagun and land acquisition taken up.
8.	**New Maynaguri-Jogighopa**	2000-01	245	894	149.3	55	Not fixed	Land acquisition, earthwork, bridges taken up.
Gauge conversion								
1.	**Lumding-Silchar-Jiribam & Badarpur to Kumarghat**	1996-97	368	1676	628	90	March, 2010	Earthwork, bridges, tunnel work etc. in progress. The work is adversely affected because of militant activities. The security cover at all the sites is yet to be provided by the State Govern-ment of Assam. This has been declared as a National Project.
2.	**Rangiya-Murkong-selek with linked fingers**	2003-04	510	915.7	7	22	March, 2012	Work has been taken up on Rangiya-Rangapara north section. This has been declared as a National Project.
3.	**Lumding Dibrugarh**	1993-94	734	882	790	5	Main line completed.	The balance is only branch lines from

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	with linked fingers, Haibargaon-Mairabari and Senchoa-Silghat Town						Senchoa-Silghat March, 08 balance March , 09	Haibargaon to Mairabari and Senchoa - Silghat where works are in different stages
4	Kathakal-Bhairabi	1997-98	84	88.70	10 01	5 98	March, 10	Earthwork, bridge works etc. taken up The conversion will be done alongwith Lumding-Silchar project
5.	New Jalpaiguri New Bongaigaon with branch lines	1997-98	419	892 83	824 15	31	Main line and Alipurduar-Bamanhat completed. Fakiragram Dhubri Dec. 2009-10.	All work completed except Fakiragram-Dhubri which is targeted for 2009-10

Future trading

†*234. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to ban the future trading of food items;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received memorandum, etc. in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government alongwith the details of the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) The Government received some representations suggesting taking out food items/essential commodities from the list of commodities permitted for forward trading on the ground that futures trading was leading to price rise in these commodities. The Government also had before it the Report of the Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution regarding forward trading in commodities. In this context, the Government decided to appoint an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Professor Abhijit Sen to go into the aspects of forward trading on prices of essential commodities, which may adversely impact the consumer. Earlier as a measure of abundant precaution, Forward Markets Commission (FMC) *vide* letter dated 23.10.2007 directed the three National Exchanges, namely (i) Multi Commodity Exchange of India Ltd., (ii) National Commodity & Derivatives Exchanges Ltd., (iii) National Multi Commodity Exchange of India Ltd. to delist all contracts c f tur and urad and to close out all outstanding

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi